

March 3, 2022

Dear Administration and Elections Committee:

I am writing my testimony regarding S.B. No 184 and H.B. No 5262 and would like you to include my views in consideration to removing the 'ILLNESS' item (3) from the reasons for Absentee and Mail-In ballots for elections going forward.

I have worked the local elections in my town of Newtown for the past 3 sessions which included the Presidential Election in 2020. I was on the receiving end of mail-in ballots (Absentee) when I did not request one and did receive more than one (in case I didn't get the first one). I ripped them both up and threw them away. I was perfectly capable of either standing in line to vote as I have always done in the past. All the lies and propaganda that was put out by the media to build up the fear level of the public to allow opportunities for fraud in our elections was so unnecessary. Now we are seeing the results of this mode of voting. We need to take a step back and learn from our mistakes.

We need to 'tighten up' our election process to safeguard our right to vote and for the valid American citizens to be vetted and exercise their constitutional right to vote. We need Voter ID and ONLY paper ballots. No computers, no internet, and no mail in absentee ballots unless you are in the Military, will out of state during the voting date or handicapped. And ALL absentee ballots before they are handed out, they need to have a valid ID – the same ID they would have needed if they came in-person to vote at the polling stations – and a valid 'vetted' signature.

Additionally, ALL votes are counted on the election day. We have done this in the past and there is no reason why it can't be done moving forward.

Respectfully yours,

Donna Cook

605 Brookside Ct, Newtown CT

Your Constituent